
URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT PLANS: LAND USE & DEMAND MANAGEMENT



OCTOBER 13, 2015

NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL (NRDC)

WHO WE ARE:

- NRDC is the nation's most effective environmental action group, combining the grassroots power of more than 2 million members and online activists with the courtroom clout and expertise of over 500 lawyers, scientists and other professionals.
- Our dedicated staff work with businesses, elected leaders, and community groups on the biggest issues we face today.
- The NRDC Water Program envisions and is working towards a safe and sufficient supply of fresh water for people and the environment.

What I Will Be Talking About Today...

- California's Drought Response
- Urban Water Management Plans - Background
- A Review Of 2010 UWMPs - What We Discovered About Demand Projections
- Improving Demand Projections With Land Use Plans
- New Guidance For 2015 UWMPs

California's Response to the Drought

THE CALIFORNIA DROUGHT

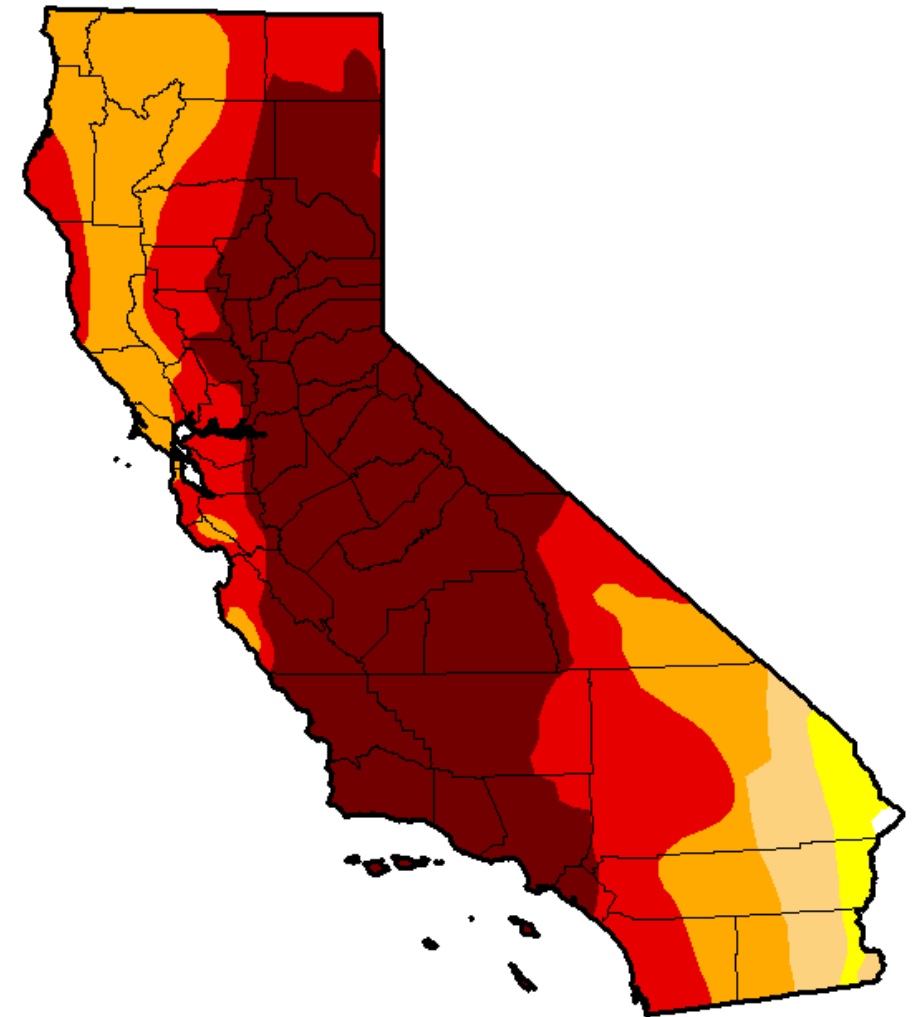
- Worst drought in 1,200 years
- El Nino is not going to save us

GOVERNOR BROWN'S 2014 EXECUTIVE DIRECTIVE

- Voluntary 20% Reduction

GOVERNOR BROWN'S 2015 EXECUTIVE DIRECTIVE

- Mandatory 25% Reduction
- State Water Board Emergency Regulations
 - Limit Outdoor Irrigation
 - Require Mandatory Reductions Between 4% And 36%



NEXT UP:

2015 Urban Water Management Plans & The First SBx7-7 Target

Urban Water Management Plans: Background

WHAT IS AN URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN?

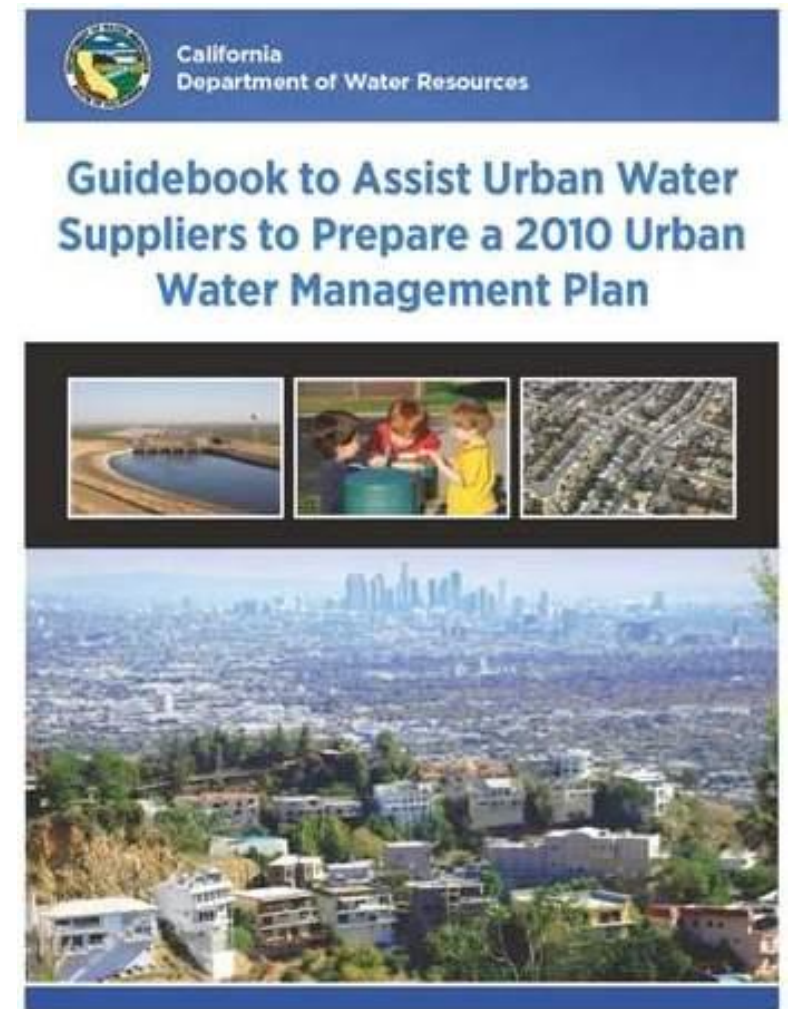
- Plans must include detailed descriptions of supply, demand, and demand management programs

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARING THE PLANS?

- Every water supplier with 3,000 or more connections must submit an UWMP every 5 years.

SBx7-7 / 20x2020

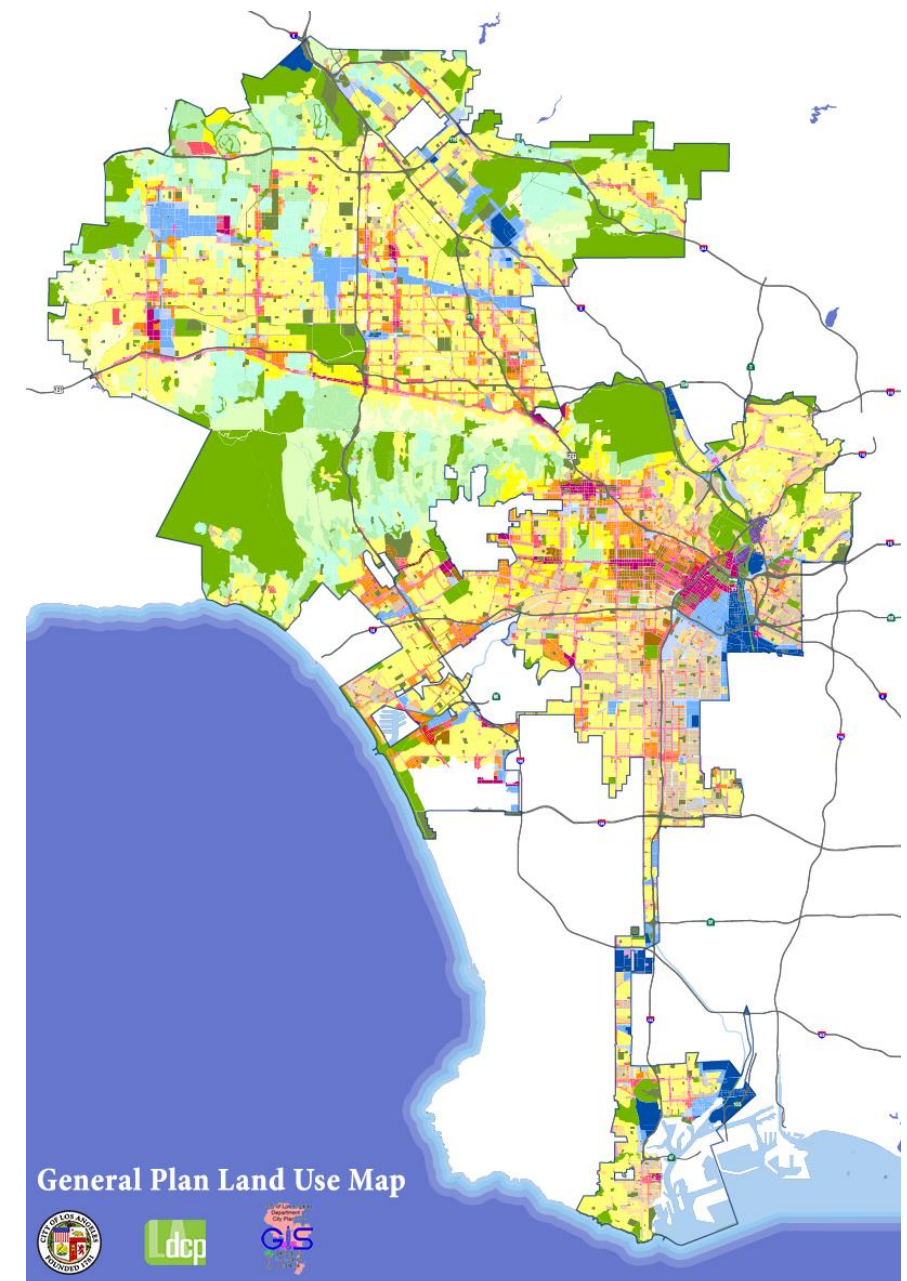
- Requirement to include water use baseline and target calculations
- Starting in 2016, eligibility for grants and loans dependent on complying with per capita water use targets



Urban Water Management Plans: Demand Projections

WHAT WE LEARNED BY REVIEWING THE UWMPs OF METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT MEMBER AGENCIES:

- Lack of guidance for estimating demand projections resulted in wide variability in the methods & data used
- No guidance/requirements for after the year 2020
- Land use planning can have a significant impact on demand projections



Demand Projections: Importance of Land Use Plans

UWMP DEMAND PROJECTIONS MAY NOT BE REFLECTIVE OF CURRENT/FUTURE DEVELOPMENT TRENDS

2035 Projections:

- General Plans: 58% Single family
- 2012-2035 SCAG RTP SCS: 68% Multi-family



Urban Water Management Plans: 2015 Guidance

NEW GUIDANCE FOR 2015 PLANS

Estimating Future Water Savings from Adopted Codes, Standards, Ordinances, or Transportation and Land Use Plans

An Appendix to the California Department of Water Resources
2015 Urban Water Management Planning Guidebook

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Water Scarcity, Population Growth & Development

THE BIG QUESTIONS:

1. IS PER CAPITA THE RIGHT METRIC TO USE GOING FORWARD?
2. SHOULD WE BE CONTINUING TO BUILD WHILE ASKING PEOPLE TO REDUCE DEMAND?
3. WHAT ROLE DOES/SHOULD WATER AVAILABILITY PLAY IN PLANNING FUTURE DEVELOPMENT?

CONCLUSION: WATER SUPPLIERS & PLANNERS NEED TO WORK TOGETHER.

Questions?

THANK YOU

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